

Stellar Communities Designation Program Webinar



Today's Agenda

Opening Remarks

Partner Introductions

Program Definitions

Program Divisions

General Program Requirements

Program Process and Timeline

Letter of Interest Criteria

Q&A with State Panel



Stellar Communities Designation Program

A first of its kind collaboration between state agencies



Stellar Communities Designation Program Goals

Through annual designation the **Stellar Communities Designation Program** will provide resources for transformative quality of place community improvements by:

Utilizing previous planning efforts

Leveraging existing assets

Fostering regional investments

Stimulating continued growth for long-term relevance



Program Overview

Building **strong partnerships** and coordinate program implementation among various organizations.

Designed to be a *flexible* program to assist prepared communities to implement their vision to make significant social and capital investments to enhance **quality of life** and spur private **economic development**.



Program Overview

Designated communities will have access to **technical assistance** and may be eligible for non-competitive funds.

Restrictions may be placed on designated communities to apply for regular competitive programs during the three-year designation period.



Office of Community and Rural Affairs



The Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs works with local, state and national partners to provide resources and technical assistance to aid communities in shaping and achieving their vision for economic development.

OCRA Contact Information:

Matt Crouch

Senior Program Manager

mcrouch@ocra.in.gov



Office of Community and Rural Affairs

Resources

1. [Technical assistance](#) on project development and funding requirements
2. Maximum of \$2MM per designee in funding available through the CDBG subject to federal eligibility and project application submission
3. Maximum of \$100K per designee in funding available through the [Historic Renovation Grant Program](#)



Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority

ihcda

Indiana Housing &
Community Development
Authority



The mission of the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority is to provide housing opportunities, promote self-sufficiency, and strengthen Indiana communities.

IHCDA Contact Information:

Carmen Lethig
Placemaking Manager
clethig@ihcda.in.gov



Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority

Resources

1. Technical assistance on project development and funding requirements
2. Capital funding for affordable housing and community development projects. Funding may be in the form of tax credits, loans, or grants depending on activity and funding program.
 - HOME \$500,000
 - CDBG \$250,000
 - RHTC \$1,200,000
 - Indiana Affordable Housing and Community Development Fund \$500,000 (loan only)



Indiana Department of Transportation



The Indiana Department of Transportation will plan, build, maintain and operate a superior transportation system enhancing safety, mobility and economic growth.

INDOT Contact Information:

Stephani Vermillion

Senior Auditor

svermillion@indot.in.gov



Indiana Department of Transportation

Resources

1. **Technical assistance** on project development and funding requirements
2. Maximum of \$2.5MM dollars per designee in **funding available for construction in fiscal year 2020** through the Rural Federal Aid Program for communities that fall outside of any MPO Urbanized Area. This funding is subject to federal eligibility



Indiana Office of Tourism Development



The Indiana Office of Tourism Development is dedicated to enhancing the economic vitality of Indiana, its destinations and tourism-related assets through leadership, resource support, strategic planning and marketing expertise.

IOTD Contact Information:

Mark Newman

Director

mnewman@visitindiana.com



Indiana Office of Tourism Development

Resources

1. In depth consulting on asset development
2. Technical assistance for strategic planning, destination development and marketing
3. Access to tools and resources to increase awareness of pre-existing assets and add new ones



Indiana Office of Small Business and Entrepreneurship



The Office of Small Business and Entrepreneurship creates a positive and measurable impact on the formation, growth, and sustainability of Indiana's small businesses by providing entrepreneurs expert guidance and a comprehensive network of resources.

OSBE Contact Information:

Jacob Schpok

Director

jschpok@osbe.in.gov



Indiana Office of Small Business and Entrepreneurship

Resources

1. In depth **business consulting** for high priority businesses and entrepreneurship
2. **Economic development training** and programming focused on supporting innovation-driven entrepreneurship
3. **Connection** to entrepreneurship-support resources



Indiana State Department of Health



Indiana State
Department of Health
Division of Nutrition
and Physical Activity

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) promotes and provides essential public health services to create a healthier and safer Indiana. The Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity (DNPA) addresses the problems of poor nutrition, sedentary behaviors, and obesity and other chronic diseases in Indiana.

ISDH Contact Information:

Eden Bezy

Director, Nutrition and Physical Activity
ebezy@isdh.in.gov



Indiana State Department of Health

Resources

Provide Technical Assistance for:

1. Promoting and implementing active living environments
2. Complete street policies
3. Bicycle and pedestrian planning
4. Promoting **physical activity** and **local foods** in schools and communities
5. Promote physical activity and use school and shared community facilities



Serve Indiana



Advance service and volunteerism by informing, connecting, and promoting opportunities and resources that enrich the lives of Hoosiers.

Serve Indiana Contact Information:

Debbie Pidgeon
Executive Director
dpidgeon@ofbci.in.gov



Serve Indiana

Resources

1. Provide Technical Assistance related to utilizing volunteerism or service as a strategy: [National Service: A Resource for Cities, Cities of Service](#)
 - a. Connect with local Volunteer Center and volunteer management training.
 - b. Host an [AmeriCorps NCCC](#) team (6-8 week project) or an [AmeriCorps VISTA](#) (capacity building) project.
 - c. Apply for [AmeriCorps](#) funding, deadline in October 2016
 - i. Engage members in evidence-based or evidence-informed interventions to strengthen communities. Members engage in community service and receive a living stipend and education award.
 - d. Host volunteer awards event
 - e. Promote Days of Service – mini grants available



Indiana Department of Natural Resources



To protect, enhance, preserve, and wisely use natural, cultural, and recreational resources for the benefit of Indiana's citizens through professional leadership, management, and education.

DNR Contact Information:

Chris Smith
Deputy Director
csmith@dnr.in.gov



Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Resources

Provide **technical expertise** on projects affecting:

1. Historic structures
2. Outdoor recreation community planning



Indiana Finance Authority



Our mission is to oversee State-related debt issuance and provide efficient and effective financing solutions to facilitate state, local government and business investment in Indiana.

IFA Contact Information:

Andy Seiwert
General Counsel
Aseiwert@ifa.in.gov



Indiana Finance Authority

Resources

1. Provide **financing opportunities**, including tax-exempt and lower-interest bonds, and the State Revolving Loan Fund for drinking/waste water projects.
2. Provide educational, financial, technical, and legal assistance for **environmental investigation and remediation**.
3. Applications and more information available at www.in.gov/ifa



Indiana Arts Commission



**INDIANA ARTS
COMMISSION**
MAKING THE ARTS HAPPEN

To positively impact the cultural, economic and educational climate of Indiana by providing responsible leadership for and public stewardship of artistic resources for all of our State's citizens and communities.

IAC Contact Information:

Lewis Ricci
Executive Director
Iricci@iac.in.gov



Indiana Arts Commission

Resources

1. Competitive funding opportunities for arts projects and organizations
2. Access to data from statewide Creative Sector Economic Impact Study
3. Education opportunities in economic development, community development and cultural development



Indiana Arts Commission

Resources Continued

4. Field consultancies in communities as available
5. Advisory assistance through IAC staff and our Regional Arts Partners throughout the state
6. Access to research and best practices in areas such as audience development, fund development and community arts development



Indiana Bond Bank



The Indiana Bond Bank assists local government with the process of issuing debt.

- Financing conduit
- Lower borrowing cost due to economies of scale

Indiana Bond Bank Contact Information:

Ron Mangus

Deputy Director

rmangus@inbondbank.com



Indiana Bond Bank

Resources

1. Equipment Leasing - lease purchase of essential equipment
2. Tax Anticipation Warrants - cash flow needs
3. Fuel Budgeting - fuel budget protection
4. Debt Issuance - long term debt
5. Interim Loan Program - construction financing for USDA-RD loans



Stellar Divisions

Division I: Communities above 6,000 in population

Division II: Communities 6,000 and below in population

Three finalists and one designee from each division will be selected as long as eligible and qualified letters of interest and strategic investment plans are received



General Requirements for Participation

Requirements

Open to incorporated Indiana communities of any size that are not entitled to direct CDBG funding through U.S. HUD



General Requirements for Participation

Requirements Continued

A local unit of government that resides in a MPO, must meet the eligibility requirements below:

1. If the community falls within an MPO's Planning Area, they must have a letter of recommendation from the MPO for the proposed projects
2. If the community falls within an MPO urbanized area, they must have approval from the MPO for the proposed projects. If selected, any funding for the proposed projects must be financed by the MPO



General Requirements for Participation

Requirements Continued

Must have a recent comprehensive plan (7-yrs)

Must have documented and demonstrated capacity to complete proposed activities—including the ability to submit a response to a request for proposal

Must be in good standing with partner agencies



General Requirements for Participation

Requirements Continued

The authorization to submit certification form must be signed by the chief elected official

Must submit the Stellar Communities information sheet, an 8 ½ by 11 map of projects in your community, and project matrix with the letter of interest



Stellar Communities Designation Program

Process

Call for Letters of Interest (LOI) Webinar **January 13th**

Informational Workshop **January 27th** 10 AM-12 PM
EST Garrison @ Ft. Harrison State Park. Register [here](#)

Letters of Interest (LOI) due **March 11th** 5:00 PM EST.

Electronic Submissions only and via an FTP site.

Contact Stellarcommunities@ocra.in.gov to set up a
user name and password even if you have
an existing account



Stellar Communities Designation Program

Process Continued

Evaluations of LOIs

Announcement of finalist communities **April 5th**

Finalist Workshop **April 21st** 10AM-1 PM EST Garrison
@ Ft. Harrison State Park

Strategic Investment Plans (SIPs) Due **July 1st** 5:00 PM
EST



Stellar Communities Designation Program

Process Continued

Site visits and evaluations July 16th – August 15th

Designation announcements August @ State Fair

Community celebrations September

Kick off meetings October



Letter of Interest

Letters of Interest will be evaluated by:

Description of **target area**

Description of **local and regional impact**

Demonstrated **reasonableness** of project scope

Demonstrated **feasibility** of proposed projects



Letter of Interest

Letters of Interest will be evaluated by (continued):

Demonstrated leadership capacity

Demonstrated community engagement

Demonstrated ability to maintain Stellar projects

Description of how designation will be used to market community to attract residents and businesses



Letter of Interest

Letters of Interest will be evaluated by (continued):

For previous program finalists, how the previous Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) has been implemented and justify the need for updates to the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP)

MPO acknowledgement if necessary



Letter of Interest Submission Packet Requirements

We are looking for FIVE documents on March 11

1. The Authorization to Submit Certification Form signed by CEO
2. The Stellar Communities information sheet
3. The Stellar Communities LOI project matrix
4. A copy of the adoption resolution for the comprehensive plan
5. A legible 8 ½ by 11 map of your community with target area boundaries and projects identified.



Submit Letter of Interest

Stellarcommunities@ocra.in.gov

Email Stellarcommunities@ocra.in.gov with the following information:

1. Full Name
2. Email
3. Preferred Password
4. Community Name (i.e. City/Town of...)

LOI due March 11, 2015 5:00 PM EST



Questions and Answers



Additional Questions

Questions can be submitted to Stellarcommunities@ocra.in.gov, which will be collected into a FAQ document.

You can find the FAQ, along with all other Stellar Community information, here:

<http://www.in.gov/ocra/stellar.htm>



Thank You

